From: Philip
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 12/7/01 12:05pm
Subject: Microsoft still trying to dictate.

I work for a computer manufacturing company, and I can tell you without a doubt, that Microsoft is still trying to eliminate the rest of the software companies by any means possible. There are so many issues with trying to use any other software that it is not even funny. I just spent three days trying to get a Windows compatable driver to work and Microsoft tried to deter me at every turn.

Follow this. I load the software for a database. The database itself is not Microsoft. The front end or access point is Microsoft. By using a different backend, I have a more reliable and faster system. The software for the backend is just plain better than anything Microsoft puts out. And it costs some $50,000 less, still not free, than what Microsoft charges. The problem is that Microsoft deliberately codes in a refusal with its' frontend, not to accept a connection with the other software. Unless the other software company goes to Microsoft and gets its' approval for the driver involved. Every other software maker in the world, simply tells you that it has not tested the driver and cannot confirm it will work with their software.

An operating system is most useful because of its' compatability with all the other software we use in computers. It is the hub and the other software provides the spokes to connect with other computers, the internet, printers, etc... Microsoft continually takes an ax to everyone else's spokes. They are still using every hidden means possible to do this. The last example was an update I was trying to download from Microsoft to fix a known flaw with their system. One of there famous security holes. When I tried to download it I got an error message indicating I had done something wrong. I checked my work and found no errors. I went back to the download point and checked it out throughly. Microsoft had put together a loop that took you directly to the error page. There was no download. The download page told you that if this fix fails you need to buy an upgrade. In other words there is a flaw and we are going to use it to sell you a fix, rather than providing one. And they were using a false error to do it. Sounds like they really are trying to do better huh!

So how much are they paying the justice department to fix their problem? If justice signs off on this I hope every one in the department is forced to wear a shirt that says "Paid for by Bill Gates"

Philip Browning